



MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

01/17/2012

6th FLOOR HEARING ROOM

Present: Chairman Betsy DeWitt, Selectman Nancy Daly,
Selectman Jesse Mermell, Selectman Richard Benka,
Selectman Kenneth Goldstein

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Selectmen to announce recent and/or upcoming Events of Community Interest.](#)

Chairman DeWitt announced that there is a fund to help out displaced residents stemming from the 1471 Beacon Street Fire.

Chief Ford brief the Board on the events that occurred. The Fire Department arrived four minutes after the alarm. Mutual Aid was called in as well as other Brookline Firefighters. The cause is undetermined at this time but appears to have stemmed from the electrical closet in the basement. The roof and upper floors sustained most of the damage. The units have severe water and fire damage, and the cold weather made the area very dangerous to maneuver. There were a few injuries, all minor at this time, and include both residents and firefighters.

The Board conveyed their thanks to everyone involved, and expressed how grateful the community is that everyone was safe. The Board acknowledged the leadership provided by Chief Ford.

A discussion on safety precautions including sprinkler systems and fire alarms came up and if the Town could look into State requirements, and whether there should be broader protections put in place in Brookline.

Chief O'Leary congratulated the Fire Department on a matter that could have been a lot worse. Detective Michael Raskin updated the Board on the emergency team's actions. There were 65 residents that sought shelter at the makeshift shelter location. Stop and Shop came by with food and drinks, and T Anthony's donated pizzas. Residents and neighbors provided food and warm clothing, it was an incredible show of helping hands. The Red Cross was present, and residents were provided with means to help them out in the short term. Director of Health and Human Resources Alan Balsam stated that some residents did lose everything, Brookline has some resources through the Community Foundation, and the Salvation Army. He was very proud of all the emergency teams that responded. The Brookline Credit Union is collecting donations as they have done in the past.

SELECTMEN UPDATES

Meeting on the history and Status of Metco 7pm at the

The MLK celebration was a success, the performers and participants did a great job. A special thanks to the Coolidge Corner Theatre for offering the space.

January 25 public meeting to discuss DPW Sewer Separation Project at Whelock

College.

Senater John Kerry will hold office hours in Town Hall

Last week in response to Affirmative Action policy. Clarified comments and read a statement that a new policy is being prepared by Town Staff. There was confusion about the reports presented.

Reports by individual Selectmen on activities related to carrying out the responsibilities of the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

[Public Comment period for citizens who requested to speak to the Board regarding Town issues not on the Calendar.](#)

Bobbie Knable stated that the working group has been meeting for several months. Brookline current stands that since Brookline the Town will comment to non discrimination. There are other componenets absent that include increasing job postings, job fairs, and informing current employees and provide accurate job postings.

Mariela Ames left her questions and her questions were answered by the Human Resourse Director and provided to her. She was not encouraged by the answers. There seems to be an absence of minorities in the working group and senior staff. She is not sure if minority workers are being welcomed to speak any of there concerns. She would like the Baord to consider allowing the public to attend the working groups meetings.

MISCELLANEOUS

[Approval of miscellaneous items pgs. licenses, vouchers, and contracts.](#)

Selectman Benka stated that he has asked the MBTA to hold a public hearing in Brookline on the proposed fare hikes and service cuts. He asked that the meeting be held at a location accissable by public transportaiton. Brookline is a community that heavily relies on public transportation.

The "T" has alot of debt due to their updates to equipment and to pay for this they are cutting services. Any cuts to service or increase in fares will impact the entire town. Should the "T" not provide a public hearing the Board should have one and encourage residents to . The Forest Hills to Cleveland Circle route is slotted to end, and Selectman Goldstein stated that thsi is the only public transportaiton available to South Brookline residents. The Chestnut Hill to KEnmore Square route stops at large medical facilities that are important to our residnets

Voted to approve Approval of miscellaneous items pgs. licenses, vouchers, and contracts.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[NEW VOTING PRECINCTS](#)

[Town Clerk Patrick Ward will appear to update the Board on new voting precincts resulting from Redistricting.](#)

Town Clerk Pat Ward updated the Board on the recent precinct changes that were reviewed and approved by the Sate, and became effective in December 2011. The State has updated their database to include the changes. Federal law requires that any resident that do not respond to the street listing mailing will be deemed inactive voter. 9 out of 16 precints were effected by the re-princting changes. Town Meeting Members in those effected areas will have to run again for Town Meeting, the terms

will be determined by the order of the votes.

The Board thanked him for the update

CLIMATE WEEK

Mary Dewart and members of the Climate Action Committee will appear to update the Board on activities taken place during 2012 Climate Action Week January 21st to the 29th.

Mary Dewart updated the Board on activities that will take place during 2012 Climate Action Week during the week of January 21st to the 29th. The event will offer info

POET LAUREATE

Question of establishing The Poet Laureate of Brookline Program and adopting Guidelines for said Program.

a. Question of accepting a Gift in the amount of \$500 from BayState Federal Charitable Foundation to fund the annual stipend for the Poet Laureate of Brookline Program.

Selectman Goldstein took the podium and read a poem about a walk in Brookline by .. He introduced the Brookline Poet Laureate Program, a Poet Laureate will work to bring poetry into public life. Many municipalities have a poet laureate. The position will promote awareness and appreciation of poetry arts to a wide range of audiences. Selectman Goldstein presented a program description and guidelines, and acknowledged everyone involved in drafting this program. He thanked the donor for the 500

Joe McGonegal of the Commission for the Arts updated the Board on the events that took place in putting this program together. He is pleased to offer this program to the community. Selectman Benka thanked former Selectman Skip Sessling for encouraging the Board to look into this. Mr

Voted to approve Question of establishing The Poet Laureate of Brookline Program and adopting Guidelines for said Program.

a. Question of accepting a Gift in the amount of \$500 from BayState Federal Charitable Foundation to fund the annual stipend for the Poet Laureate of Brookline Program.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

COYOTE CONTROL

Selectman Ken Goldstein will present potential strategies in the dealing with the Coyote population in Town.

a. Question of designating the the Animal Control Officer Pierre Verrier as the town's Problem Animal Control Agent as authorized in 321 CMR 2.14.

Chairman DeWitt stated that Selectman Goldstein and she attended a neighborhood meeting about coyote activity. Selectman Goldstein added that in connection with other Town Officials an action plan has been drafted. He encouraged additions to it. The first is education on coyotes, including food sources, and habits. A coyote spotting will be added to the Brookline website to determine where they are settling. This will help trigger the Officials to dispense information to the neighborhood. There is a lot of mis-information about coyotes circulating and correct information will be released. A form of a guideline will be expanded and leverage to determine what makes an animal a threat. The animal control officer will be given specific powers to .. control problem

animal control agent have all the abilities to act within the Town. Look into a Town wide ban on feeding wild animals. The State regulations are very hard to understand, there needs to be clear and specific instructions on what actions a community can take. Legislative action needs some funding devoted to address the problem. This is more than relocating one or two animals. Ms. Tokoff thanked the Board for their involvement.

Voted to approve Selectman Ken Goldstein will present potential strategies in the dealing with the Coyote population in Town.

a. Question of designating the the Animal Control Officer Pierre Verrier as the town's Problem Animal Control Agent as authorized in 321 CMR 2.14.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

FOOD VENDOR LICENSE

Police Officer Casey Hatchett stated that former Fire Chief Skerry made a donation to the Women's Commission, and she noted that this is the first donation the commission has recieved.

Question of approving the application of Harvard Street Sunoco, Fahd Iqbal and Muhammad Iqbal Mirzag, owners for a Food Vendor License at 454 Harvard Street.

Fahd Iqbal stated that all food will be pre-packaged, and all papers are in order.

Voted to approve Question of approving the application of Harvard Street Sunoco, Fahd Iqbal and Muhammad Iqbal Mirzag, owners for a Food Vendor License at 454 Harvard Street.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

OPEN AIR PARKING LOT LICENSE

Public Hearing on the application of John Diarbakerly for a license to conduct and maintain an open-air parking lot with an area of approximately 43,000 sq. ft. for seven (7) automobiles at 3 Washington Street and Bartlett Crescent.

Ken recused, Betsy held the item pending additional information

Linda Jason Bartlett resident asked that the Building Department . Concerns the owner renovated premises and removed historic marjer and never replaced it Brookline/Brighton line. There are 11 parking spaces lined out there. Also Zip cars are parked there with no permit at all. 1994 plan shows a curb cut that is too large for the sidewalk he is not in compliance with that. Now wants to park cars on the entire surface of his land. he plows snow into street onto the public sidewalk. What is he going to do to the snow. Jesse observed that there is always a sign that says parking available, and wondered if they are renting out spaces on the Brookline side of the property. Ms. Jason replied that it appears that he does rent out spaces without a permit. Benka if Zip Cars are being parked in Brookline we should be receiving excise taxes and . Andrew Fisher TMM#13 agreed that this site has been a difficult neighbor. The snow accumulation has been an ongoing problem. He feels that snowplows should not be overlooked especially when ongoing bad behavior.

WINE & MALT COMMON VICTUALLER

Public Hearing on the application of Gourmet Republic, Inc., d/b/a Olea Cafe, Daoud B. Trayad, Owner, Manager, holder of a Common Victualler license at 195 Washington Street for a Wine and Malt beverages license as a Common Victualler.

a. Question of approving the application of Gourmet Republic, Inc. d/b/a Olea

[Cafe, Daoud B. Trayeh, Owner, Manager, holder of a Wine and Malt beverages license as a Common Victualler at 195 Washington Street for the appointment of Katlin Donnelly as Alternate Manager.](#)

Daoud Tayeh, Owner stated the they operate the cafe, and neighbors have been requesting beer and wine beverages. They have a large food menu and are registered for serve safe classes. They are aware of the liquor notebook and policy regulations required. The Board reminded them that the Police Department does do stings periodically on liquor serving compliances.

[LIQUOR VIOLATION HEARING](#)

[Public Hearing pursuant to General Laws Chapter 138, Section 64, on the issue of whether or not to modify, suspend, revoke or cancel the All Kinds of liquor license as a Retail Package Store held by Bay State Food Shops, Inc., Marcello Rullo, Manager at 1420 Beacon Street.](#)

[BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS](#)

[Question of making appointments to the Commission for the Disabled.](#)

Voted to approve Question of making appointments to the Commission for the Disabled.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[MISCELLANEOUS](#)

[Question of approving the minutes of January 10, 2012.](#)

Voted to approve 15. Question of approving the minutes of January 10, 2012.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[Question of accepting a donation from former Fire Chief Peter Skerry in the amount of \\$50.00 to support Brookline Commission for Women programs.](#)

Voted to approve 16. Question of accepting a donation from former Fire Chief Peter Skerry in the amount of \$50.00 to support Brookline Commission for Women programs.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[Question of accepting a donation in the amount of \\$1,800 from the Ruderman Family Foundation to the Brookline Police Public Safety Memorial Fund.](#)

Chief O'Leary stated that the Ruderman family has made a donation that will provide funds for a service area

Voted to approve 17. Question of accepting a donation in the amount of \$1,800 from the Ruderman Family Foundation to the Brookline Police Public Safety Memorial Fund.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[Question of accepting a donation in the amount of \\$500.00 from the Korean Church of Boston to be used for community policing activities.](#)

Chief O'Leary stated that the Korean Church has made this donation for years, and it will be used for community activities. Selectman Daly added that it is a nice gesture that they make every year acknowledging the Public Safety services.

Voted to approve 18. Question of accepting a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Korean Church of Boston to be used for community policing activities.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[Question of granting a temporary Wine and Malt beverages license to the Michael Driscoll PTO in connection with a Dinner/Auction to be held on May 5, 2012 from 6pm-11pm at the Driscoll School, 64 Westbourne Terrace](#)

Voted to approve 19. Question of granting a temporary Wine and Malt beverages license to the Michael Driscoll PTO in connection with a Dinner/Auction to be held on May 5, 2012 from 6pm-11pm at the Driscoll School, 64 Westbourne Terrace

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein

[Question of granting a temporary Wine and Malt beverages license to the College of Fine Arts in connection with a Reception to be held on February 2, 2012 from 6pm-8pm at 808 Commonwealth Avenue.](#)

Voted to approve 20. Question of granting a temporary Wine and Malt beverages license to the College of Fine Arts in connection with a Reception to be held on February 2, 2012 from 6pm-8pm at 808 Commonwealth Avenue.

Aye: Betsy DeWitt, Nancy Daly, Jesse Mermell, Richard Benka, Kenneth Goldstein